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PATENT
Atty. Dkt. No. APPM/001717.D2/PPC/ECP/CKIM
Serial No.: 10/611,589

FEB 21 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**In re Application of:
Chen, et al.**

Serial No.: 10/611,589

Confirmation No.: 5241

Filed: June 30, 2003

For: Method and Apparatus for Annealing Copper Films

Group Art Unit: 1742

Examiner: George P. Wyszomierski

**MAIL STOP AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 21, 2005

**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE
TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.6**

In response to the Final Office Action dated December 21, 2005, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on March 21, 2006, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicant believes that no additional fees are due in connection with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/APPM/001717.D2/KMT, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.